IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: WINQUIST ET AL

SERIAL NO.: 09/508,010

FILED: MARCH 6, 2000

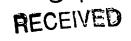
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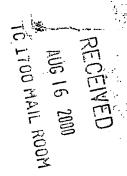
The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231





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## PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

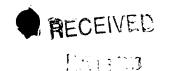
In satisfaction of an uncompromising duty to disclose under 35 CFR 1.56(a), Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Patent Office art which Applicant has become aware from the prosecution of Applicant's underlying Swedish Patent Application. More particularly, Applicants hereby attach copies of the Swedish Patent Office Search Report, the Preliminary Examination-Report and an Official Action, together with the translation. Copies of the references listed therein and a completed U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449 are also enclosed.

This Prior Art Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits copies of the International Search Report, Preliminary Examination Report and an Official

HAYES, SOLOWAY,
HENNESSEY, GROSSMAN
& HAGE, P.C.
175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH
03101-2335 U.S.A.

603-668-1400



Action together with a translation of portions of the official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman P. Soloway Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 24,315

## **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 5,000 at Manchester, New Hampshire.

HAYES, SOLOWAY, HENNESSEY, GROSSMAN & HAGE, P.C. 175 CANAL STREET MANCHESTER, NH